United Nations A/57/90

General Assembly

Distr.: General
20 June 2002
English
Original: English/Spanish

Fifty-seventh session
Item 84 of the preliminary list*
Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

Report of the Secretary-General

I. Introduction

1. By General Assembly resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954, Member States were invited to extend to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories offers of facilities not only for study and training of university standard, but also for study at the post-primary level, as well as technical and vocational training of immediate practical value.

2. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1696 (XVI) of 19 December 1961, offers extended under resolution 845 (IX) are communicated by the Secretariat to the administering Powers to enable them to give appropriate publicity to the offers in the Territories under their administration.

3. Information on scholarships offered by Member States under the programme is made available to prospective applicants. Reference to the programme is included in the thirtieth edition of the handbook entitled *Study Abroad*, published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

4. Under the terms of General Assembly resolution 845 (IX) and subsequent resolutions,[1] the Secretary-General submits to the Assembly each year a report containing detailed information on the offers made and the extent to which they were utilized.[2] The present report, which covers the period from 8 June 2001 to 10 June 2002, is submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 56/68 of 10 December 2001.

II. Scholarship offers and awards

A. Offering States

5. Over the years, the 54 States Members of the United Nations listed below have offered to make scholarships available for the use of inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories in response to the aforementioned resolutions:

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates,

* A/57/50/Rev. 1.

02-43735 (E) 280602 160702

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

6. Two non-member States have also offered scholarships:

Holy See and Switzerland.

B. Offers and awards

Member States

Argentina

7. In a note verbale dated 11 April 2002, the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations informed the Secretary-General of the following views of the Government of Argentina:

"The Malvinas Islands were registered by the United Kingdom as a Non-Self-Governing Territory. This is a consequence of the illegal British occupation of Argentine territory that took place in 1833.

"The United Nations has on many occasions indicated that the colonial dispute between Argentina and the United Kingdom over those territories should be resolved through peaceful negotiation.

"Be that as it may, because the islands form part of Argentina's national territory, its inhabitants — like the rest of the Argentine population — enjoy the benefits of the National Scholarship Programme offered by the Ministry of Education of the Argentine Republic."

Chile

8. In a note verbale dated 19 April 2002, the Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations informed the Secretariat that the Chilean Government, through the International Cooperation Agency, is carrying out a joint cooperation programme with the countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). This programme will consist mainly of a training course for teachers of Spanish, to be held annually in Jamaica and given by professors from the Language Institute of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

Cuba

9. In a note verbale dated 7 June 2002, the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations informed the Secretariat that the Government of Cuba firmly supports United Nations efforts to promote the education of the inhabitants of those Territories and encourages all Member States to continue and expand, as the case may be, offers of scholarships specifically for the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories, which need the assistance and support of the international community in the field of education and training.

10. The Government of Cuba further stated that, in spite of its limited resources as a developing country and also one submitted to a unilateral blockade by its most powerful neighbour, Cuba has granted study scholarships in Cuba to 843 Saharan students and 2 students from Montserrat, who are studying various specialities at various levels, in its academic institutions. For the next academic year, which begins in September 2002, five scholarships have been scheduled for Saharan students and one for a student from Anguilla.

11. The Government of Cuba also stated that Cuba will continue to offer scholarships in order to contribute to the vocational training of the inhabitants of Territories that have not yet achieved self-government or independence and calls upon those States which have greater economic capacity and are more developed to make additional efforts to provide more opportunities for study and vocational training to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

Japan

12. In a note verbale dated 31 May 2002, the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations informed the Secretary-General that the Government of Japan has offered to make scholarships available for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories for graduate school and research students and scholarships on Japanese studies.

13. A research student scholarship was granted to one Non-Self-Governing Territory inhabitant in 2001.

Mexico

14. In a note verbale dated 5 June 2002, the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations informed the Secretariat that, as a part of the multilateral programmes for the announcement of Government of

Mexico scholarships for foreigners in 2003, a specific programme has been drawn up for Non-Self-Governing Territories recognized by the United Nations. Through this programme, scholarships are offered for students or teachers to study Spanish and Mexican culture at the Education Centre for Foreigners of the Autonomous National University of Mexico; to carry out specialized studies and take master's and doctoral courses; to carry out advanced-level doctoral research with tutoring in academic institutions; or to engage in postdoctoral studies at academic institutions.

15. With regard to the number of student recipients, both in 2000 and 2001 two of the scholarships were designated for nationals of "the Saharan Arab Republic", while in 2002 five scholarships are envisaged for candidates from that same Territory.

New Zealand

16. In an electronic communication dated 10 May 2002, a representative of the Permanent Mission of New Zealand to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the number of scholarships provided to students from Tokelau for the past six years:

	Year					
	1997	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*2002*
Number awarded	1	10	5	8	6	3
Number studying	7	15	15	18	15	10

Singapore

17. In an electronic communication dated 13 June 2002, the Permanent Mission of Singapore to the United Nations transmitted to the Secretariat information to the effect that since 1995, Singapore has provided scholarships to students from Non-Self-Governing Territories in areas including public service, civil aviation management, environmental technology, expert market development and telecommunications, among others, as follows: Anguilla, 11; Bermuda, 1; British Virgin Islands, 12; Cayman Islands, 8; East Timor, 45; Montserrat, 17; Tokelau, 3; Turks and Caicos Islands, 8.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

18. In a letter dated 14 June 2002, the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom transmitted to the Secretariat details of scholarships funded by the United Kingdom to enable students from its Overseas Territories to take higher education courses in the United Kingdom.

19. The United Kingdom Department for International Development funds scholarships for Saint Helena and Montserrat. The scholarships are run by the British Council. The figures are:

Montserrat
2001/02: 4 awards
2002/03: 1 award

Saint Helena
2001/02: 12 awards
2002/03: 16 awards

20. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office also sponsors some Chevening Scholarships. The figures for 2000/01 are:

British Virgin Islands: 1 award
Cayman Islands: 2 awards
Montserrat: 4 awards
Saint Helena: 1 award

III. Applications made through the United Nations

21. In accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 1696 (XVI), applications for scholarships received by the United Nations Secretariat from inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories are transmitted simultaneously to the offering States for consideration and to the administering Powers for information.

22. Between 5 June 2001 and 4 June 2002, the Secretariat received requests from four students for information on the availability of scholarships. None of the students were inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

Notes

[1] The most recent resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on this question are resolutions 52/74, 53/63, 54/86, 55/140 and 56/68.

[2] For the most recent reports, see A/52/388, A/53/262 and Add.1, A/54/267, A/55/81 and Add.1 and A/56/88.